

THIS WEEK IN TEXAS HISTORY

November 2011 – Week 3

Air Date: November 13 – November 19 (Sunday – Saturday)



TITLE: AN UNION TROPHY

NOVEMBER 1863 AND YANKEES GRAB A REBEL FLAG.

THIS WEEK IN TEXAS HISTORY, BROUGHT TO YOU BY THIS STATION AND THE SAVE TEXAS HISTORY PROGRAM OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE.

NOVEMBER 17, 1863. MUSTANG ISLAND. BUILT TO PROTECT ARANSAS PASS FROM THE UNION NAVY, FORT SEMMES IS A VITAL, BUT REMOTE, STRONGHOLD. COL. A.M. HOBBY'S EIGHTH TEXAS BOYS CAMP ON THE WINDSWEPT BEACH.

AT DAWN, THE UNION LAUNCHES A MASSIVE ASSAULT ON THE LOWER COAST. A GUNBOAT SHELLS THE FORT AS INVASION TROOPS ATTACK UP THE BEACH. SOON, FORT SEMMES FALLS – ALMOST WITHOUT A SHOT.

THE 15th MAINE LED THE CHARGE, SO THEY CLAIM THE REBEL FLAG AS A TROPHY AND SEND IT HOME.

THE FLAG HANGS IN THE MAINE STATE CAPITOL FOR OVER 60 YEARS UNTIL 1927, WHEN A CEREMONY IS HELD TO RETURN THE FLAG TO TEXAS.

A CONFEDERATE FLAG IS PRIZED BY YANKEES 148 YEARS AGO, THIS WEEK IN TEXAS HISTORY.

LEARN MORE AT SAVETEXASHISTORY.ORG OR CALL 800-998-4GLO.

J. Guthrie Ford, "FORT SEMMES," *Handbook of Texas Online*

(<http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/qcf29>), accessed October 30, 2011. Published by the Texas State Historical Association.

"The Yankee invasion of Texas," by Stephen A. Townsend

(<http://books.google.com/books?id=K8lfKHcQ3CkC&lpg=PA27&ots=tlrQtvYRsu&dq=%22Fort%20Semmes%22%20Flag&pg=PA27#v=onepage&q=%22Fort%20Semmes%22%20Flag&f=false>)

"Texas Flags," by Robert Mayberry

(<http://books.google.com/books?id=TM3WMV3HpQ4C&lpg=PA100&ots=IcpiJYB20q&dq=%22Fort%20Semmes%20Flag%22&pg=PA100#v=onepage&q=%22Fort%20Semmes%20Flag%22&f=false>)

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